

REMARKS

In light of the above amendments and remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5-24, 26-28, 30 and 32 are pending in this application. Claims 2-4, 25, 29, and 31 are canceled.

Claims 1-12, 16-19, 25 and 28-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. (U.S. Patent 6,104,753) in view of Sugiyama (U.S. Patent 6,188,725).

The present invention is directed to "down-converting interlaced scanning formatted input compressed picture information encoded according to the MPEG2 (motion picture experts group) standard to progressive scanning formatted output compressed picture information encoded according to the MPEG4 standard." (Claims 1 and 28) Neither Kim nor Sugiyama even mentions the MPEG4 standard. Accordingly, Kim and Sugiyama do not meet the recited MPEG4 limitations.

Moreover, the present claims recite "decoding the I-pictures and P-pictures of the input compressed picture information ... on a macroblock basis using four of eight discrete transform cosine transform (DCT) coefficients in each of the horizontal and vertical directions of the macroblock." (Claims 1 and 28) The Examiner asserts Kim meets this limitation at Column 2, lines 60-64. (Office Action page 2) However, Kim actually discloses selecting coefficients from a DCT performed on a 4x4 block of pixels. Hence, Kim reduces the number of pixels which need to be transformed; rather than transforming the entire picture and then reducing the number of coefficients which are used as recited in the present claims. In this manner, Kim reduces the picture resolution in the spatial domain before transforming as opposed to reducing the resolution in the frequency domain as in the present invention. Accordingly, for

at least this reason, Kim and Sugiyama fail to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

Claims 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Sugiyama and Staver et al. (U.S. Patent 5,463,569). Staver is relied upon solely to meet the double interpolation filter limitations recited in the dependent claims. However, Staver fails to meet the same limitations discussed above in relation to Kim and Sugiyama. Accordingly, the combination of Kim, Sugiyama, and Staver fails to obviate the invention for the same reasons.

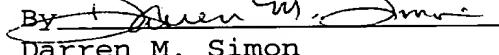
As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Darren M. Simon
Registration No.: 47,946
LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMLIK & MENTLIK, LLP
600 South Avenue West
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
(908) 654-5000
Attorney for Applicant

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